

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A speech segment search unit searches a speech database for speech segments that satisfy a phonetic environment, and a HMM learning unit computes the HMMs of phonemes on the basis of the search result. A segment recognition unit performs segment recognition of speech segments on the basis of the computed HMMs of the phonemes, and when the phoneme of the segment recognition result is equal to a phoneme of the source speech segment, that speech segment is registered in a segment dictionary.